

# Printer port hosts precision analog I/O board

HUW JONES, GYRUS MEDICAL LTD, CARDIFF, WALES, UK

**BBS** The 12-bit analog I/O board in Fig 1 plugs into a PC's printer port. Thus, you can move the board around your laboratory more easily than you can exchange A/D boards that plug into the PC's backplane. The board handles eight 1-kHz input signals ranging from 0 to 5V max.

IC<sub>1</sub> is a serial, 12-bit A/D converter having an internal 4.096V reference and an internal track-and-hold circuit. Op-amp IC<sub>2</sub> provides a low-impedance source for IC<sub>1</sub>. IC<sub>2</sub> has a V<sub>OS</sub> of 70  $\mu$ V, which is well within 1/2-bit conversion accuracy. Further, IC<sub>2</sub>'s rail-to-rail outputs come to within 1 bit of

IC<sub>1</sub>'s full input range. However, the circuit's relatively slow slew rate limits input frequencies to below 1 kHz. Analog multiplexer IC<sub>3</sub> allows you to select any one of eight input channels.

D/A-converter IC<sub>4</sub> furnishes a 12-bit output. IC<sub>4</sub> derives its reference voltage from IC<sub>1</sub>'s reference output. Op-amp IC<sub>5</sub> and its associated components develop IC<sub>4</sub>'s 2.048V reference.

Schmitt-trigger IC<sub>6</sub> squares up the serial clock's edges (STB). This squaring up is a precaution and is, therefore,

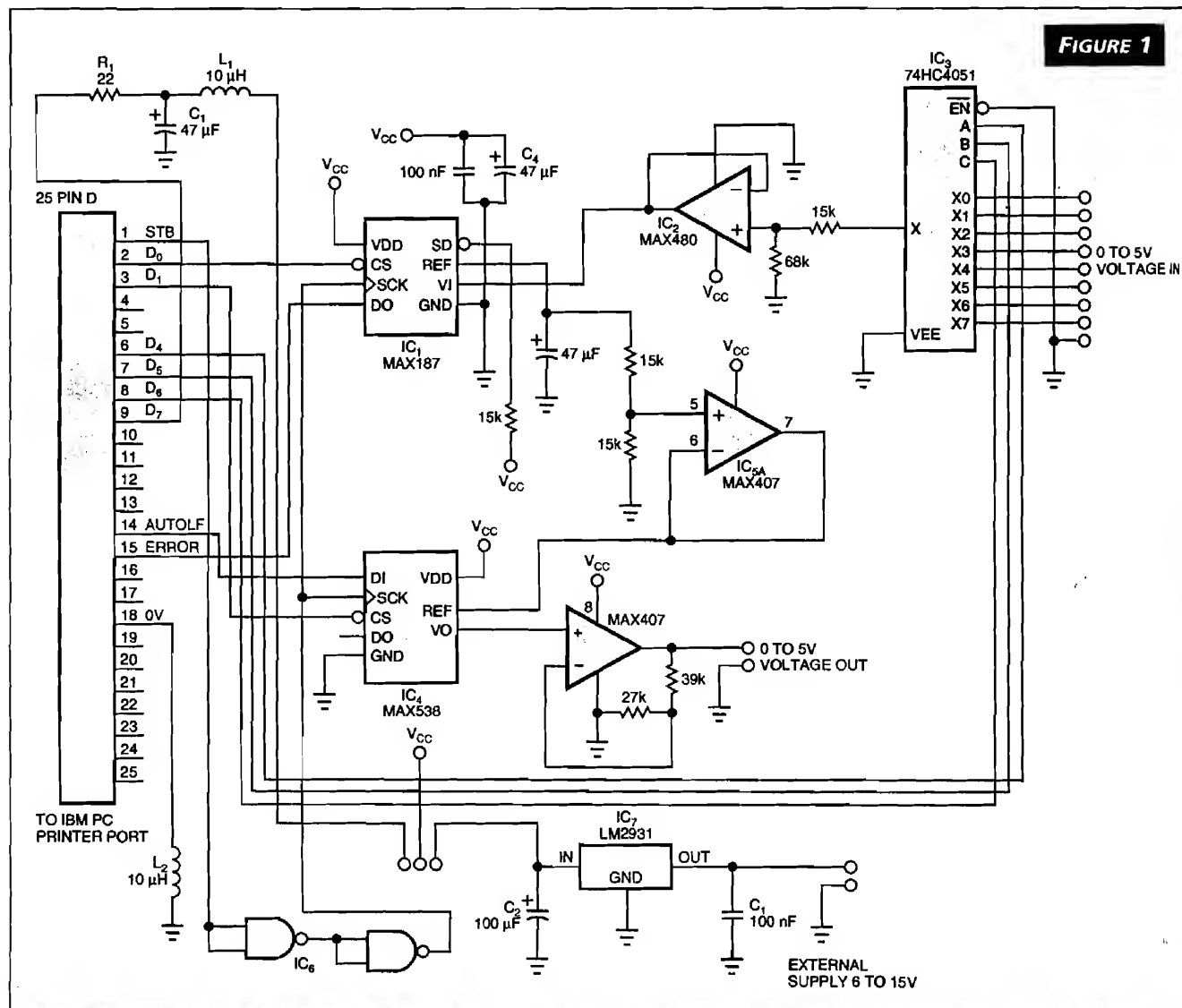


FIGURE 1

This 12-bit analog I/O board plugs into a PC's printer port, allowing you to move the board around your laboratory easily.

unnecessary if your PC has HCMOS-compatible output lines. Also, depending on your particular PC, printer-port-signal D<sub>7</sub> provides 5V power via R<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>, and L<sub>1</sub>. Obtain the best performance, however, by using an external supply. Low-dropout-regulator IC<sub>1</sub> yields a stable 5V from a 6 to 15V input. Inductor L<sub>2</sub> reduces digital noise from the PC's ground rail.

Listing 1 is a sample interface routine written in C++. You can easily convert this listing to standard C. A/D-conversion speed depends entirely on software-execution speed. The ZIPfile attached to EDN BBS /DI\_SIG #1647 contains the listing as well as a write-up. (DI #1647)

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## LISTING 1—SAMPLE CONVERSION C++ ROUTINE

```

#define STB 0x01 /* STROBE on pin 1 */
#define ALP 0x02 /* AUTO LINE FEED on pin 14 */
#define INIT 0x04 /* INITIALIZE on pin 16 */
#define SLO 0x08 /* SELECT OUT on pin 17 */
#define IRQ 0x10 /* INTERRUPT ENABLE bit */
#define BUSY 0x20 /* BUSY input on pin 11 */
#define ACK 0x40 /* ACK input on pin 10 - this is inverted */
#define PAPER 0x20 /* PAPER ok input on pin 12 */
#define SEL1 0x10 /* SELECT IN pin 13 */
#define ERROR 0x08 /* ERROR signal on pin 15 */
#define D0 /* data line declarations */
#define D1
#define D2
#define D3
#define D4
#define D5
#define D6
#define D7
#define HIGH 1
#define LOW 0

enum onoff {high = 1, low = 0}; /* for bit control */

#include <dos.h>
#include <conio.h>
#include <iostream.h>

**** read byte back from of selected printer data port ***
/* entry : printer port (1,2)
/* exit : value read back from selected data port
char datain(int ppnum)
{
    int addr = 0x378;
    if (ppnum != 1)
        addr = 0x378; /* unless explicit port 1, use port 2
    return(inportb(addr)); /* will be previously written data
}

**** general purpose adjust control bit for selected printer port ***
/* entry : printer port (1,2), port bit as bitmask for control
/* exit : control pin changed on selected port
void control_bit(int ppnum, char bitmask, onoff state)
{
    int addr = 0x378+2;
    char temp;
    if (ppnum != 1)
        addr = 0x378+2; /* unless explicit port 1, use port 2
    temp = inportb(addr); /* reads back inst control value from register
    temp = 0x0b; /* bit inversion correction
    if (state == low)
        temp &= bitmask; /* clear pin, no check for integrity
    else
        temp |= bitmask; /* set pin high
    temp &= 0x0b; /* resuract inversion
    outportb(addr, temp); /* written
}

**** general purpose adjust data bit for selected printer port ***
/* entry : printer port (1,2), port bit number
/* exit : data pin changed on selected port
void data_bit(int ppnum, int bitnum, onoff state)
{
    int addr = 0x378;
    char temp;
    char bitmask;
    bitmask = (1 << bitnum); /* derive mask
    if (ppnum != 1)
        addr = 0x378; /* unless explicit port 1, use port 2
    temp = inportb(addr); /* reads back register
    if (state == low)
        temp &= bitmask; /* clear pin, no check for integrity
    else
        temp |= bitmask; /* set pin high
    outportb(addr, temp); /* written
}

**** read status byte of selected printer port ***
/* entry : printer port (1,2)
/* exit : value obtained from selected status port
char statin(int ppnum)
{
    int addr = 0x378+1;
    if (ppnum != 1)
        addr = 0x378+1; /* unless explicit port 1, use port 2
    return(inportb(addr)); /* status available in bits 7-3
}

**** write data byte to bits D0-D7 of selected printer port ***
/* entry : printer port (1,2), data to be written
/* exit : selected port written
void dataout(int ppnum, char data)
{
    int addr = 0x378;
    if (ppnum != 1)
        addr = 0x378; /* unless explicit port 1, use port 2
    outportb(addr, data); /* written
}

**** set up a/d input channel selection on D6-D4 ***
/* entry : port 1/2 and channel in range 0 to 7
/* exit : MC4052 multiplexer routed
void mux(int port, int chan)
{
    char temp;

    temp = datain(port); /* mask out bits 4 through 6
    temp |= (chan << 4);
    dataout(port, temp);

    **** control synthesizeed Vcc rail powered from D7 ***
    /* entry : port 1/2 and condition
    /* exit : power rail enabled/disabled with time lag
    void power(int port, onoff state)
    {
        if (state == high)
            data_bit(port, D7, high); /* enable 5V
        else
        {
            control_bit(port, STB, low); /* set all control lines at 0V before
            control_bit(port, ALP, low); /* removing 5V supply
            mux(port, 0); /* same for data lines
            data_bit(port, D0, low);
            data_bit(port, D1, low);
            data_bit(port, D7, low); /* now switch off 5V
            delay(200);
        }

        **** perform a serial clock pulse ***
        /* entry : port 1/2, SCLK low
        /* exit : one clock pulse L->H->L generated
        void clockbit(int port)
        {
            control_bit(port, STB, high); /* force serial clock line high
            control_bit(port, STB, low); /* now low

            **** read 12 bit a/d input via MAX187 ***
            /* entry : port 1/2, CS for a/d high, serial clock line low
            /* exit : 12 bit value in range 0-4095
            int read_adc(int port)
            {
                int clocks;
                int edin = 0;
                int temp, timeout;
                data_bit(port, D0, low); /* chip select MAX187 via D0 going low
                timeout = 1000;
                do
                {
                    temp = statin(port) & ERROR; /* wait for busy to complete
                    timeout--;
                } while ((temp) && (timeout)); /* ready when D0 goes low to high

                for (clocks = 0; clocks < 12; clocks++) /* read 12 bit data plus
                {
                    edin <<= 1; /* adjust for mcb bit shift out from MAX187
                    clockbit(port); /* toggle serial clock
                    if (statin(port) & ERROR) /* shift in a 1 bit
                        edin |= 0x01;
                    clockbit(port); /* final redundant clock to complete
                    data_bit(port, D0, high); /* disable MAX187
                }
                return(edin);

                **** write 12 bit d/a via MAX538 ***
                /* entry : port 1/2, voltage out value (0-4095), CS for d/a high
                /* exit : d/s updated
                void write_dac(int port, int dval)
                {
                    int clocks;
                    int mask = 0x0800;
                    control_bit(port, ALP, low); /* set data low
                    data_bit(port, D1, low); /* chip select MAX538 via D1 going low
                    for (clocks = 0; clocks < 12; clocks++) /* write 12 bit data
                    {
                        (dval & mask) ? control_bit(port, ALF, high) : control_bit(port, ALF, low);
                        clockbit(port); /* toggle serial clock
                        mask >>= 1; /* resign mask for mcb first operation
                    }
                    data_bit(port, D1, high); /* disable MAX538

                    **** test out main routine ***
                    main()
                    {
                        int port;
                        int i, temp;
                        int dac, adc;
                        port = 1; /* assume LPT1:
                        power(port, high); /* enable 5V rail
                        mux(port, 0); /* select a/d channel 0
                        clrscr();
                        dac = 0;
                        while (!kbhit()) /* loop until key press
                        {
                            write_dac(port, dac); /* 12 bit d/s saw tooth output
                            dac++;
                            if (dac > 4095)
                                dac = 0;
                            adc = read_adc(port); /* read 12 bit a/d
                            gotoxy(10, 5);
                            cout << "a/d input = " << adc / 1000 << "." << adc % 1000 << "V ";
                        }
                        power(port, low); /* disable 5V rail
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```